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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

MARCH LEAFLET

It Deals With
The War Crisis
Rush In Your
ORDERS NOW!

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304

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Why Should You Care?

By ADOLPH GERMER.

WHY SHOULD you care when Congress spends hundreds of millions of dollars for army and navy purposes while millions of human beings are hungry, crying for bread? Is it any of your business when Congress spends its time considering the best way to build up a murder machine and has little or no time for the people's immediate needs?

What right have you to protest when food prices shoot up another notch and another and make it harder for you to get the barest needs of life? Isn't the whole scheme of the system of private ownership based upon profits—"get all you can and give as little as possible in return"? Isn't the success of a person nowadays measured by how much he can gouge the people?

Morgan Richer Than "John D."

As a result of the European war, J. P. Morgan is reputed to be richer than John D. Rockefeller. Do you wonder, then, that Morgan and that crowd want war and more of it? But, in case of war, Morgan will not enter the trenches and "bleed and die" to "uphold the honor" of the country. The fighting will have to be done by the workers while Morgan and his crowd will do the gouging.

You read about the hundreds of thousands of women gathering in Philadelphia and in City Hall Square, New York, demanding bread. Where were Morgan, Schwab, Roosevelt, Gen. Leonard Wood, Patton, Wetz and other war lords and food speculators? What did they do to relieve that serious situation? They had no time for the starving multitude—they were too engrossed in gouging the nation.

According to them and their kept press, we should go to war to "protect American rights, American honor and the flag." To them "American rights" and "American honor" consist of their investments. Their "flag" is the dollar and they'll follow it all over the world. When they get snagged, our "patriotism" is appealed to and we are called upon to shoulder a gun and "fight for the country". Doesn't it seem reasonable to you to ask Morgan and Schwab and that crowd to give a demonstration of patriotism by enlisting as a private and go to the very forefront where bullets fly and shells burst? Why should we get shot to pieces in defense of something that belongs to Morgan and Schwab, when they will not go on the firing line? If they refuse to defend their investments, I refuse to do it for them. And if you will take the same attitude, there will be no war.

What War Means To You.

Have you ever thought what war means to you? Did it ever occur to you that wars are fought by the flower of the manhood of the respective nations? Did you ever stop to think that war robs society of the men in the bloom of life? Isn't it perfectly clear to you that those who can render society the greatest good are sent to the human slaughter house to be killed or crippled? Can't you see that the armies and navies consume and destroy what others produce and build up? A battle ship is built that costs fifteen million dollars or more. Then a torpedo or a submarine is sent out to blow up those millions. Fortifications are built that cost millions and a few shells from a modern Howitzer will tear them to pieces. Worst of all, the best of our brawn and muscle is torn to pieces by shot and shell. And yet we are asked to go to war.

"But", you will say, "we must defend the country, we cannot see our rights trampled under foot". My dear reader, those who would inspire you with such thoughts are trampling your rights under foot every day. When they send the prices of food stuffs up they trample on your right to exist. When the prices of flour, potatoes, meat, etc., go up it means that your wages will buy less of the things you and your family needs. To increase the price of the things you need is another way of reducing your wages. The women who gathered in New York and Philadelphia and demanded bread were met by the police. Some of them were beaten up and thrown into jail. Let me give you some Philadelphia prices, so you will see what the women protested against:

	Year ago	Today
Sugar (lb.)	.06½	.09
Eggs (doz.)	.35	.50
Butter (lb.)	.40	.50
Lard (lb.)	.20	.25
Flour (bbl.)	6.00	12.50
Potatoes (bu.)	1.25	3.50
Cabbage (lb.)	.05	.18
Rump Steak (lb.)	.22	.30
Sirloin (lb.)	.25	.35
	\$8.78	\$18.17

You will see from the above that the same quantity of goods that one year ago cost \$8.78 now costs \$18.17. Have your wages increased accordingly? If not, isn't it a fact, then, that you and your family are obliged to get along with less of those necessities?

Do you think the situation will be relieved in case this country should go to war? Don't you think that it will be even worse and that famine will stalk all over the land? How? You will ask. Well, more of our able-bodied men will be taken out of the industries and the fields and thrown into the army and navy. There they will not produce, but instead, will consume and destroy.

The patriots for profits have monopolized the food supply and gouged the people to the very limit. They will continue to do it so long as

(Continued in last column.)

The Bible does not say, Thou shalt not commit murder, but, Thou shalt not kill. Let the shouters for war note this fact.

Private ownership of railroads has broken down. They have proved themselves inadequate to handle the nation's commerce.

More than half a billion for the navy. A big war loan in prospect. The blood-thirsty editors have had their way, after all.

Let there be a universal draft of capital before a single worker be called to risk his life where he has not a thing to gain if he wins.

No nation can exist half despotic and half democratic. We can not expect to have despotism in industry and democracy in politics at the same time.

Had America elected a Socialist administration, there would be no war and no panic, because America would have possession of her credit—and could do things.

Mr. Wilson evidently believes the contributors to his campaign funds do not want either the people or congress to have a voice in plunging the nation into war, but one man alone.

Society which does not hesitate to demand the individual's life for the defense of the whole, should not hesitate to demand the individual's property for the good of the whole.

All great reforms in society have come from below, not from above. They were forced by the people from the men who were in power. They were hardly ever conferred upon the people by those in power.

The trouble with reformers is that they are appealing to the rich and the powerful to change conditions for the poor, whereas they should appeal to the poor to change conditions for themselves.

The capitalists own the means of wealth production because, as one capitalist expressed it—they were smart enough to get them.

It is now up to the people to be smart enough to get them back again.

The Socialists realize the limitations of human nature. Realizing these limitations they consider it a waste of time to appeal to the capitalist class to give justice to the workers. They prefer to tell the workers to bring justice for themselves from the capitalist class.

Some become Socialists of their own accord;

Some are made Socialists by the hard work of others;

And some are kicked into the Socialist party.

But they get there just the same!

Had the President really prosecuted the paper makers two years ago, as Socialists said he should have done, instead of first permitting them to commit crime and then merely threatening them, the lives of more than 800 newspapers of America might have been preserved.

Did you notice that little dispatch telling how 300,000 boy scouts were to be ordered into service in case of war? Oh, you damned hypocrite and fool, who pretended that the boy scouts were not a military organization, how will you get that blood off your hands?

"You take my life when you take the means whereby I live!" wailed Shylock in the Merchant of Venice. "You own my life when you own the means whereby I live!" cries the enlightened workman.

They who control our living control our lives.

As long as one man, or any set of men, confiscate any part of the product of other men's labor, slavery lives.

Wealth can not be produced by magic, by hocus poems, or by ledger-dreams of any kind. It is produced by labor, and by labor only.

The United States already operates the telegraph in Alaska, and does it very successfully. The law provides that the telegraph in Alaska be operated at cost. When a couple of years ago a surplus accumulated, the government cut the rate in half. As a result the people send more telegrams and another surplus is accumulating. The government now contemplates cutting the rate in half again.

The Socialists would establish a society in which no person would draw from society more than the equivalent of the labor he gives to society, as far as that can be ascertained.

This is in contradistinction to the present system under which an individual draws from society all he can get, with such legal restrictions as society imposes—which legal restrictions, however, can be easily evaded by the great and powerful.

It has been so at all times and in all ages, that the men who controlled the lives of the people of a nation controlled the politics of that nation. Not until the people decide that they themselves are going to own and operate the industries, will the people be able to control the courts and the administrative and legislative bodies.

We can not be industrial slaves and political freemen!

Contented?—No, we of the Socialist Party are not contented! Nor will we allow any workman or woman to remain contented.

Even though they wish to be left alone we will not leave them alone.

We will shake them into wakefulness until they, too, see the horrors that afflict humanity; until they, too, catch a glimpse of the vision of the new society, and help us to realize its promise.

Protest!

EMPHATIC protest against the abolition of freedom of speech and press as attempted in the so-called "Spy Bill" now before congress, is voiced in a telegram rushed to President Wilson and 20 members of congress by the Socialist Party National Emergency Committee consisting of Victor L. Berger, John M. Work and Adolph Germer. This telegram reads as follows:

"In the name of the Socialists of the United States we earnestly protest against that portion of the Spy Bill which abolishes freedom of speech and freedom of press. It is an unwarranted and insane attack, caused by the prevailing war madness, upon the liberties which have been achieved thru long years of struggle. We urge you to do everything in your power to prevent that provision from becoming law."

While the outrageous press censorship bill recently exposed in The American Socialist has been held back by the war department, the department of justice has pushed thru the senate the "Spy Bill", almost equally menacing to free discussion and control of military affairs in time of peace as well as war.

This "Spy Bill" is a consolidation of 14 different bills drafted by the Department of Justice and merged by the Senate Judiciary Committee. This bill, aimed theoretically at the foreign spies and propagandists like those who were so active in the United States at the outbreak of the war, is so loosely and sweepingly drawn that it involves in its language, if not in its intent, not only the Socialist Party and every trade union but every radical pacifist organization, every "stop the war" group, every one who, in time of war, might fight conscription, or attempt to expose corruption in army or navy contracts or criticize the management of the war. In short, while attempting to protect military secrets and the integrity of the conduct of the war, it threatens to paralyze all real democratic investigation, discussion and control of national defense.

The bill was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee and passed the Senate. During the three days debate on the bill every amendment offered by Senators Cummins, Lee, Works and LaFollette which tended to limit and define its reckless provisions was defeated. Yet the scope of the bill calls for the most careful discrimination if the liberties of American people are not to be seriously curtailed.

As it stands, the bill makes it a crime for anybody to seek information with regard to the state of national defense, even in time of peace. To pass such information on becomes a crime. Promptly at the outbreak of war, the military authorities are placed beyond the reach of criticism by a clause which penalizes by life imprisonment "whoever, in time of war, shall, by any means or in any manner, spread or make reports or statements, or convey any information, with intent to cause dissatisfaction in or to interfere with the operations, or success of, the military or naval forces of the United States."

A statute as sweeping as this would have outlawed the activities of the Anti-Imperialist League during the Spanish War. It could have been used summarily against the newspapers which exposed the "embalmed beef" scandals. It would certainly penalize those who supported "conscientious objectors". It would be used as a net to gather in those who fought conscription in time of war, or who agitated against the management of the war by the military authorities. Anything, in short, which might be construed as causing disaffection in the army or navy or as hampering the military authorities, may be punished by life imprisonment—and by a fine of \$10,000.

As the administration has asked that some bill guarding against "espionage" and "acts of interference with the foreign relations" of the United States shall be passed before adjournment, action on this will be hurried thru. In all probability the President has not the faintest idea of the rash language of the bill. Many constitutional lawyers in the Senate think that the Department of Justice has all the power it really needs in legislation now on the books and that the present bill is not only highly dangerous but that its more dangerous sections are not needed at all! However, the most that can be done is to make sure that it is so modified in its language as to safeguard freedom of speech and press and, above all, democratic control, even in time of war, of the military forces.

Write or wire to the President. Write or wire to your congressman if you think it will do any good. Don't accept reassurances from the metropolitan newspapers about this bill; there is nothing they would like better than to see the Socialist Party and its press silenced and impotent.

Mooney Sentenced To Hang!

We have just received word from San Francisco that Tom Mooney has been sentenced to hang, May 17th. The story is told in a telegram from J. E. Snyder as follows:

(TELEGRAM)

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 24, 1917.

The American Socialist,
803 West Madison Street, Chicago.

Tom Mooney sentenced to hang May 17. Notice of appeal was given. Socialist Party must act with labor unions at once. Verdict absolutely contrary to evidence. Every indication of a frame-up conspiracy to destroy organized labor behind Mooney prosecution. J. E. Snyder.

The matter is being taken up with the National Executive Committee by Adolph Germer, national secretary, Socialist Party.

A Modern Paradox

By WILLIS ANDREWS.

Verily, the path of Socialists is not one strewn with roses. First, they were berated and held up to public scorn for their failure to preserve peace in Europe, although many of them are now languishing in prison cells for refusing to heed the call of the lust for blood. And now they are being excoriated and scoffed at for trying to maintain peace in America. Socialists adhere to the principles of universal peace and the brotherhood of man—cardinal doctrines of the Nazarene. But, paradoxical as it may seem, the very people who seek to dispel Socialists with the cry of "infidel" are none other than those who profess belief in the Prince of Peace, but who are now loudest and most vehement in the clamor for war.

"Voters make up political parties. Political parties elect governments. Governments make laws. Laws control life, and life for most of the people, is labor."—Anna Agnes Maley.

Here is another contrast: In Germany Karl Liebknecht, who opposed war, is sent to three and one-half years in prison. In Dublin, Ireland, Lawrence O'Neill, one of the insurgents during the Easter rebellion, is elected Mayor of the city.

Karl Kautsky, one of Germany's ablest Socialists, has written to a Swiss paper declaring his opposition to the submarine policy and declaring his doubts whether any greater advantages to the military party would accrue than if the new campaign had not been undertaken.

And, after all, the Prince of Peace was a pacifist.

Let congress adjourn and the President keep his foot out of it, and all will go well yet.

The commission selected to investigate the leak has closed it up with daubs of whitewash.

Have you written to your congressman, protesting against universal military training? Why not?

Capitalism is corrupting the socialized schools by compelling the pupils to train for murder in its behalf.

Capitalism is corrupting the socialized roads by turning them into military roads to foster its fight for loot.

Capitalism is corrupting the socialized waters by filling them with wrecks, to spoil the trade of rivals.

We must either kill capitalism, or capitalism will kill the human race, leaving only robbers, murderers and slaves.

Mr. Wilson seems to be having a great deal of trouble with the watermelon he is trying to carry under either arm.

Had the Socialist suggestion of an embargo on food products been acted on two years ago, there would have been no danger of war now.

You condemn the ancient Jews for choosing the thief Barabbas rather than Jesus. Yet you chose Capitalism the thief rather than Socialism.

Senator Stone is right in one regard. There are a lot of editors who are seeking to force America into war.

Mr. Wilson was able to bring the paper makers to time by threatening prosecution. If he does not prosecute he becomes a party to the crime he says they committed.

The congressmen and cabinet members who profited from the leak are as guilty as ever; they were merely found not guilty by a commission selected to do it.

Had the Socialist suggestion of an embargo on munitions been acted on two years ago, Americans would have been a billion dollars better off in what they would have saved on food prices.

Everybody knows the why of the high cost of living; but congress has appropriated a quarter of a million dollars to enable a few congressmen to have a good time while finding an excuse for it that will free the criminals who held the country up.

The railroads of the country are reported to be behind in their equipment fully two billion dollars. The looters have merely pocketed the spoils they took from the people and let the roads go to pot.

Wuxtra, wuxtra! It is reported that 100,000 of the Wall street patriots have enlisted for the war, while congress has resigned in a body in order to show its loyalty to the flag by enlisting as privates in the army. By the time these are killed, there are 100,000 war shouting editors who will fill up the ranks. Thus the workers, having no country of their own, will not be reported to fight for the glory of England.

Adopt These Resolutions At Anti-War Meetings

Here is a form resolution that you can use for your anti-war meetings. Don't clip these resolutions from the paper but have them copied and sent to the president, to the senators from your state and to the congressman from your district.

We, citizens of....., in mass meeting assembled this..... day of....., 1917, vigorously protest against this country becoming involved in war with Germany or any other nation.

The agitation for war is solely in the interest of munition makers and food and supply speculators. By deliberately using the European war in order to make money for its already gorged capitalists, the United States has become an accomplice in wholesale murder. If this country were to go to war under the present circumstances, it would be fighting for the privilege of continuing to make money out of the great tragedy of Europe. In other words, it would be fighting for the maintenance of an infamous wrong—not a right.

We demand that no war shall be declared without a referendum vote of the people.

We demand that the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany be rescinded.

We demand that a complete embargo be placed upon the shipment of all goods, munitions and otherwise, to all of the belligerent countries.

We demand that American citizens and American ships be warned to keep out of the war zone except at their own risk.

We further demand that, in order that the resulting decrease in foreign markets may be a blessing instead of a curse to the American people, the exploiting industries of the nation shall be collectively owned and operated, and that the workers therein shall be paid the full value of their labor, thus enabling them to purchase the entire product.

Resolved that copies of these resolutions be sent to the president of the United States, to the senators from this state, and to the congressman from this district.

Meeting The Crisis.

The present crisis will tax every atom of our strength, financial as well as otherwise. We must carry on an unusual amount of publicity and agitation work to offset the war craze of the jingo press. This work cannot be carried on without incurring expenses. The patriots for profits are spending millions to spread their military and war propaganda. We must meet them with the last vestige of our united power.

The National Executive Committee sent out an appeal for a \$50,000 organization fund. This is asking for a little over fifty cents per member. Some members can and are giving more.

These are no times to quibble or equivocate. The situation is too grave. These are times that demand a quick and liberal response to the call to action.

We are looking to each of you to join hands and mass all forces for a united opposition against Russifying and Prussifying America.

We appeal to you to be as liberal as possible and act quickly in this extreme emergency.

Send all contributions to the National Office Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Centralizing Power.

It is gratifying to note that the U. S. senate committee on judiciary has had the courage to call a halt on the pernicious schemes to centralize all power to make war in the hands of the President.

The militarists who seem to be gaining in power at the White House in Washington overstepped themselves when they attempted to confer indirectly upon President Wilson blanket authority to employ the armed forces of the United States in almost any manner he sees fit in the submarine controversy with Germany.

The senators felt this power was "dangerously broad". It is more than that, it is criminal in a republic that claims to have adopted some of the forms of democracy.

Of course the president will now submit his various propositions to congress but this will give an opportunity for some discussion.

It is not even sufficient that congress discuss the big, vital problems of the nation. The Socialist Party demands a referendum on the question of going to war and this matter has already received considerable support in congress.

President Wilson might meet with popular support if he urged that more of the war-making powers be centralized in the hands of the people rather than in his own.

Why Should You Care?

(Continued from first column.)

they are organized and the masses of the people are not. The blame is not with the gamblers who gouge us—the fault lies with the masses who refuse to organize and use their united strength in the economic organization and political organization to take over the industries and operate them in the interest of all. Don't ask me how we are going to take them over. The first duty is to organize into the Labor Unions and into the Socialist Party. When you have helped to convince a sufficient number of people that the industries should be common property and we are determined to have them, the way will then be determined. Surely you should trust yourself to the extent that you would be willing to help decide the method by which the railroads, factories, mills, mines, etc., shall become the property of the people, to be operated for the people.

Worth Working For.

Don't you think this is worth working for? If you do, why don't you join the Socialist Party and speed on the day when this will be a glad reality?

Commercial rivalry which produced wars will end, and war will end. Profits, the root of monopoly, will end, and there will be no incentive for a few to hoard the necessities of life to gouge the masses.

It can be done only by united action thru organization.

This army of soldiers for the common good is growing every day. Be one of them.

Out Of The Day's Mail

Here is a letter taken out of our mail today: Washburn, Wisc., Feb. 24, 1917.

Dear Comrades In The Struggle For Justice:

For the past three years I have read many newspapers, but I have never found one that embodied in four pages one-tenth part the honest appeal to the souls of men that The American Socialist does.

Its pages overflow with reason, honesty, sympathy, justice, kindness, peace, honor, decency, intelligence, civilization, freedom, happiness and world-wide unity, harmony and peace on earth, good will toward men.

Your honest toil and martyrdom for the producers and unselfish contributions speak out of every page that to do good is your ideal, that so long as harmony does not reign in any spot, there is your country, that you may give with your whole heart and all you have to harmonize it.

Yours with happiness,
Neelu E. Farnham.

Socialism could not insure peace so long as it was a mere movement without actual power. But wait until it gets the power.

Anyhow, the peace proposals have ended a lot of hypocritical piffle about the nations at war not being out for conquest and loot.

Socialism is coming all right. It is not its fault that it has to pick its way thru battlefields strewn with the dead.

The war merely means that the exploiters have thrown their full weight toward turning the world backward and keeping it enslaved. But they will fail.

About Loyalty

By LEWIS J. DUNCAN.

The Socialists of Minneapolis have protested to President Wilson against war and against this nation's becoming involved in the conflict which has made and is still making of Europe one vast field of horrible slaughter, and is laying upon the innocent and helpless people of the warring nations heavy burdens of grief, toil and suffering which they have neither desired nor deserved.

Another group of citizens in Minneapolis, calling themselves a "Loyalty League," has denounced the Socialist protest as disloyal. The members of this league demonstrate their own loyalty by pledging themselves to "stand by President Wilson."

President Wilson owes his re-election, more than anything else probably, to the conviction in the minds of American voters that he had "kept us out of war." That was loyalty in him then. The people of the United States did not want war. They do not want it now; not many of them. But, if keeping out of war was loyalty three months ago, why is the effort of Socialists, to keep the nation out of war still longer, disloyalty now?

Reduced to simplest terms, the conception of loyalty made manifest by the Loyalty League is that of jingoists more than of patriots.

"We do not want to fight,
But, by jingo, if we do,
We have the ships, we have the men."

And we have the money, too." But this is the spirit of arrogance and bravado, sometimes mistaken for patriotism. Loyalty is a passion that moves to nobler measures.

Only they who know what means a deep compelling devotion to some noble and commanding ideal can have any conception of what loyalty really is. From such a conception the Loyalty League is leagues away. Their conception seems to be merely a willingness to fight when the President shall say, "Sic 'em!" Some dogs share in this conception. In men it is not dependable. We hope a list of the membership of the Loyalty League of Minneapolis will be published. It will be valuable for reference when the President, if he ever does, shall feel constrained to say, "Sic 'em!" In that event, we venture to predict, the loyalty of the Loyalty Leaguers will scarcely avail to compel them into enlistment for active service in the United States navy.

Any American ideal is and always has been, fundamentally, one of peace and comity with all men and nations. It is an ideal founded in faith in the common people and supported by institutions of democracy—freedom, justice and the right for all mankind, buttressed by equal laws and rights, and to be defended, if need be, by the blood and lives of citizens. Loyalty, if it means anything to a citizen of the United States, must mean loyalty to this ideal. It is what Abraham Lincoln voiced when he uttered the immortal sentence:

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom;—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

The loyalty of Socialists is, first and fundamentally, loyalty to this ideal. If sometimes it appears to others, or even to Socialists themselves, that our loyalty is, first and fundamentally, loyalty to the working class, this is because the imperative demand and need of that class, today, is for the universal peace, comity, freedom, justice and right which inhere in the ideal of American democracy. To them, this loyalty is devotion to mankind and especially to the downtrodden and oppressed of mankind. They hate war. They have every reason to hate it; for upon the working class has always fallen heaviest the burdens, sacrifices and sufferings of war, and to the working class the least of war's benefits and emoluments.

Socialists of America have not been caught, as were their European comrades, in the passion and hysteria of nationalism. They have had time to observe and reflect upon the present war. They see it for what it is—an outrageous and indefensible crime against humanity. They see its economic causes and purposes. They know it to be a capitalist war; a war which is slaying the workers of the nations by the millions, breaking up their homes, destroying the wealth which they and generations of workers before them have created; starving their wives and children; and threatening to enslave the coming generations of workers in order to discharge the war-debts that have rolled up into the billions—and all to feed the pride and power of an arrogant and tyrannical master class and to buttress still longer the

SOCIALISTS: ATTENTION!

The American Socialist Movement must be based upon American needs and American conditions. You cannot know these, without a study of American history.

A. M. Simons—the ablest historian in the Socialist Movement—has prepared a correspondence course in American History, for the People's College, to meet your need.

Write TODAY for free catalog descriptive of this great course—you cannot afford to miss it. Use the time, NOW, to prepare for the great days ahead.

Write TODAY for Please send me Catalogue descriptive of the A. M. Simons Course in American History. Name..... Address.....

Strikes And Officers Of The Law

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Here is an important article at this particular time that can be used effectively by our speakers, especially in the Eastern states, where they are trying to put over the infamous constabulary law. It effectually settles a point of dispute of long standing. We have a precedent here which we can use in all of our propaganda against constabularies and the militia and army in reference to the labor movement.

By EUGENE V. DEBS.

I HAVE OFTEN made the statement that during labor strikes officers of the law who are supposed to preserve law and order are themselves the inciters to violence and the instigators of rioting, disorder, destruction of property, and even murder. This statement has often been challenged and indignantly denied by the capitalist press. This was particularly true with reference to rioting incited by United States deputy marshals at Chicago during the Pullman strike. I made the statement that when the strike was absolutely won, when the railroads were utterly defeated and the American Railway Union completely victorious, the railroads had an army of so-called "Deputy United States Marshals" sworn in, armed with badges of United States authority, with billies and guns, saturated with booze, and then turned loose in the railroad yards of Chicago; that the rioting began as well as the burning of old cars in the hospital tracks the very night these deputies were sworn in, that these very deputies were caught in the act of cutting the hose when the fire department was engaged in putting out the fires, that these deputies were thugs and criminals and ex-convicts, and that they were paid by the railroad companies while acting as United States peace officers for no other purpose than to create violence so that injunctions and jail sentences might promptly follow, together with the sacking of the office of the American Railway Union, and at the same time to rush in the federal troops by order of the president at the command of the railroads to save Chicago from being destroyed by a mob of drunken and criminal strikers. That is the way the Chicago papers had it under scare-heads and the way it went out over the country in the prostituted press dispatches.

I also made the statement that John Brennan, Chief of Police of Chicago, had charged in his report to the Council of Chicago that the United States Deputy Marshals, sworn in by order of the railroads, consisted of thieves, thugs and ex-convicts. This last statement has been repeatedly denounced as an unmitigated lie by capitalist papers in and about Chicago and other places where I made it. I was called upon a number of times to prove it but unfortunately I was unable to secure a copy of Chief Brennan's report, and this of course confirmed the capitalist editors in their claim that I was making this lying statement to injure the railroads and to cover up my own crimes.

Now in going over some old newspaper files I have just come across a copy of the Chicago Times of January 14, 1895 which contains the complete report of John Brennan to the city council of Chicago in reference to the United States Deputy Marshals and the railroad strike. The Chicago Times was the only Chicago daily that was friendly to the strikers and therefore the only paper which published this report.

crumbling walls of an autocratic industrial and political system. Thus seeing and feeling, to consent to such a war or to serve in it would be the height of disloyalty; disloyalty to MAN, to JUSTICE, to RIGHT, to FREEDOM, to the very fundamentals upon which American democracy stands. And if this be disloyalty, then the Loyalty League of Minneapolis and all who think as these jingoists do, will have to make the most—or the worst—of it, for here we stand.

Capitalism and its crooked politicians never miss an opportunity to force a backward step to safeguard its interests and to thwart the will of the people. Single Taxers are up in arms against a constitutional amendment proposed by Senator Breed that would stop them from going to the people, thru the initiative, in their fight to bring about the single tax system. Breed's proposition would hit advocates of other tax systems also. It provides that the initiative and referendum shall not be used to enact or annul any law providing any method of assessment, or for the levy of any tax in this State." It will require a two-thirds vote in each house to put the proposed measure on the ballot and the Single Taxers are lining up to stop the thing. The Breed amendment is aimed at the proposed inauguration of the second "great adventure" to destroy land monopoly in California, which is being advocated by Single Taxers. Socialists organized labor and other progressive people.

BEFORE the American Academy of Social Science, in Philadelphia, last week, Elisha Lee, chairman of the railway managers' board, that handled the eight-hour question for the corporations, announced that it is a practical certainty that if the Adamson law is declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court the railroad employees will walk out on strike. Congressman Adamson was present at the meeting, as were representatives of the railway organizations. Lee expressed the hope that Congress will enact a law without delay along the line advocated by President Wilson to prohibit strikes on transportation systems until grievances had been thoroughly investigated, claiming that otherwise the public will be greatly inconvenienced. He made no attempt to discuss the merits of the employees' very modest demands that would increase the expenses of the railways barely \$50,000,000, which amount could be met 20 times over by the profit of \$1,100,000,000 cleaned up by those corporations during 1916. What Lee wants is a new slave system endorsed by the people of the whole country, not the Southern States only.

When the strike was over the railroads and other capitalistic powers, including the banks, combined to wreck the Chicago Times, kill it off, for having supported the strikers instead of the railroads.

The following is taken from the official report of Chief Brennan to the Chicago Council above referred to:

"Another source of annoyance to the department was the conduct of the Deputy United Marshals. These men were hastily gathered, largely from the scum and refuse of the lowest class of the city's population. While there were some honest men among them, a large number of them were toughs, thieves and ex-convicts. Several of these officials were arrested during the strike for stealing property from railroad cars. In one instance two of them were found under suspicious circumstances near a freight car which had just been set on fire. They were dangerous to the lives of the citizens on account of their careless use of pistols. They fired into the crowd of bystanders when there was no disturbance and no reason for shooting. Innocent men and women were killed by these shots. One of them shot and killed his companion by carelessly handling his gun, and another shot himself."

These are the exact words copied from the report which John Brennan, Chief of Police, made to the Chicago Council and published in the Chicago Times of January 14, 1895. Here we have it upon the deliberate statement of the Chief of Police that United States peace officers incited rioting not only but set railway cars afire, and murdered innocent men and women in cold blood.

It is well to place this fact upon record at this particular time when New York, Pennsylvania and other states, at the behest of the robber corporations, are having legislation enacted creating constabularies and other special armed forces ostensibly to preserve peace and order and protect property but in fact to incite violence and destruction to bring down upon the strikers swift and summary vengeance by having them crushed by the governmental powers, including the press, the courts, the soldiers, state and national, while the bourgeoisie and their lickspittles applaud and glorify these powers for restoring order and saving the day for the peace-loving and law-abiding people.

Of course the destruction of capitalist property by its own hirelings has but one purpose and that to fasten the crime upon the strikers as the excuse for jailing their leaders, enjoining their unions, and crushing their strikes.

The ways of capitalism in dealing with organized labor are the most hypocritical, sneaking and cowardly imaginable. There is nothing too low, too vile, too infamous for them to resort to in defense of their piratical system and to keep their slaves in chains. The report of the Chief of Police of Chicago above quoted is but one of the proofs of the crimes of the capitalists for which the workers are punished, and when these proofs shall have become sufficient established in the minds of their proletarian victims they will unite as never before and fight as never before to wipe criminal and corrupt capitalism from the earth and destroy the last vestige of exploitation, slavery and poverty which curse the race.

Socialists At Work

NOTE.—What are the Socialists doing in your city or state? The editor of this column wants to know. Send in the news about your activities. This plan is made especially for local secretaries, state secretaries and other officials of the party. Send all communications to the Editor, "Socialists At Work" Column, 808 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

HOT MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN WAGED AT DULUTH, MINN.

By JOEL LICHTEN.

We have the hottest municipal campaign ever experienced in the history of Duluth, Minn.

Big business has decided, to wipe out organized labor from the City. The steel trust, the lumber trust, small and big businessmen and corporation judges have declared a holy war against the various branches of the labor movement.

On account of the lumber strike in northern Minnesota, our state and the city of Duluth especially is infested by corporation tools, such as thugs and gunmen. Workingmen have been arrested for spitting on sidewalks, for obstructing the sidewalks, for distributing handbills and similar charges, and for these so-called crimes (?) they usually have been sentenced to 20 or 30 days to the workfarm. During a trial where 29 lumberworkers were tried for obstructing the sidewalk, they were held all day without food, a most inhuman treatment inflicted by our city officials.

At present we are engaged in the municipal election. Three of the city commissioners have to be elected. The Socialist candidates—in spite of the nonpartisan law—have the very best chances to be elected.

MONEY POWER STRIKES SNAG IN PLAN FOR CONSTABULARY.

The Steel Trust, that started so much trouble for the workers in the Mesaba Range of Minnesota, and the lumber companies of that state have "gotten a wolf by the ears" in their efforts to have the legislature appropriate \$50,000 a year to be used by the governor "for the purpose of preventing violence in connection with the labor troubles" in Minnesota. They want to let go of their proposition, but cannot until the House Labor Committee of the legislature has finished an investigation with teeth in it.

Which it has begun. The bill proposing this new way of getting a state constabulary to shoot down workers was introduced in the senate and passed that branch of the legislature. It went to the House, which turned the matter over to the Labor committee, composed of men who were determined to get all the information they could.

The investigations, which went thoroughly into the recent troubles in the iron ranges and lumber camps of northern Minnesota confirmed completely the report to the Committee on Industrial Relations made by George P. West when the Mesaba strike was at its height. It has been proved by every impartial witness called by the Labor Committee, as well as by the testimony of the labor leaders, that the demand for a constabulary and for special deputies in Minnesota is wholly for the purpose of intimidating workers. Their employers seek by the aid of state police to keep them in bondage to conditions of work and wages that any free men would strike against.

GERMAN LABOR HEAD REPLIES TO AMERICAN PEACE APPEAL.

The Berlin Vorwaerts (Socialist), says a Copenhagen dispatch, publishes the following cablegram of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, to President Leites of the German Federation of Trade Unions:

"Can you bring influence to bear on your government so that a breach with the United States may be avoided?"

President Legien replied: "Since the war broke out the German laboring classes have worked for peace, and they are against every extension of the war. The refusal of the enemy to consider the sincere German peace offer, the continuation of the dreadful war of starvation directed against our women and children and old people, and the open confession of our enemies that their war aim is the annihilation of Germany—all that has caused a sharpened submarine war."

"Influence on our side on the government is possible only if America can persuade England to give up her war of starvation."

HOFFMAN CAUSE OF STORMY SCENES IN PRUSSIAN DIET

Stormy scenes occurred during a speech delivered recently in the Prussian diet by Herr Hoffman, who belongs to the Socialist minority. He violently attacked the government and the police in connection with their conduct toward the people.

Several workers, he said, had been arrested without any legitimate reason, while workmen were threatened with being sent to the trenches, which was considered a punishment. Hoffman also bitterly complained of certain acts of the secret police and of the prosecution of some trade unions.

Amid cries of "Order!" the speaker reminded the members of the treatment of Dr. Liebknecht. Hoffman then dealt with the present food difficulties and admitted that the hunger was causing more deaths, owing to the bitterly cold weather. After describing the anxious longing for peace felt by the people, he declared that peace would have been possible long since if the German government had made public its war aims.

The minority (peace) faction of the Socialist party in Germany held a national conference at Leipzig, in which 19 members of Parliament were among the delegates. It was decided to perfect their organization everywhere in order to secure control of the party machinery, and also spread the anti-war press since the Vorwaerts has fallen into the hands of the majority faction. Hugo Haase, one of the leaders in Parliament, and Karl Kautsky were among the speakers.

Lincoln Attacking Polk

From The Milwaukee Leader.

The following is taken from one of Abraham Lincoln's speeches in congress. It was delivered in the house of representatives on January 12, 1848, during the war of the United States with Mexico, when President Polk sent a message to congress asking for a "more vigorous prosecution of the war." The American forces had suffered a temporary setback and the administration felt very much embarrassed.

Abraham Lincoln held that President Polk had done wrong to sanction the erection of Fort Brown on the Rio Grande and that our nation by extending the boundary of Texas so far south was guilty of aggression on Mexican territory—and Lincoln said this after twenty months of warfare with Mexico.

Lincoln also arraigned the president of the United States that after twenty months of war he did not know when the war would come to an end. In order to fully realize Lincoln's position we must remember that this speech was made at a time when the American nation was exultant over the great victories which our army had so far achieved over the numerically very much smaller Mexican army. His speech naturally was very unpopular—nobody suggested, however, that Abraham Lincoln and his friends should be deported, imprisoned or shot.

"Now, sir, * * * let the president answer the interrogatories I proposed, as before mentioned, or some other similar ones. Let him answer fully, fairly and candidly. Let him answer with facts and not with arguments. Let him remember he sits where Washington sat, and so remembering, let him answer as Washington would answer. As a nation should not, and the Almighty will not, be evaded, so let him attempt no evasion—no equivocation."

"And if, so answering, he can show that the soil was ours where the first blood of the war was shed—that it was not within an inhabited country, or, if within such, that the inhabitants had submitted themselves to the civil authority of Texas or of the United States, and that the same is true of the site of Fort Brown—then I am with him for his justification. In that case I shall be most happy to reverse the vote I gave the other day."

"I have a selfish motive for desiring that the president may do this—I expect to gain some votes, in connection with the war, which, without his doing, will be of doubtful propriety in my own judgment, but which will be free from the doubt if he does so."

"But if he can not, or will not do this—if on any pretense or no pretense he shall refuse or omit it—then I shall be fully convinced of what I more than suspect already—that he is deeply conscious of being in the wrong; that he feels the blood of this war, like the blood of Abel, is crying to heaven against him; that originally having some strong motive—what, I will not stop now to give my opinion concerning—to involve the two countries in a war, and trusting to escape scrutiny by fixing the public gaze upon the exceeding brightness of military glory—that attractive rainbow that rises in showers of blood—that serpent's eye that charms to destroy—he plunged into it, and has swept on and on till, disappointed in his calculation of the ease with which Mexico might be subdued, he now finds himself he knows not where. How like the half-

IS HE CRAZY?

The owner of a large plantation in Mississippi, where the figs grow, is giving away a few five-acre fruit tracts. The only condition is that figs be planted. The owner wants enough figs raised to supply a co-operative canning factory. You can secure five acres and an interest in the canning factory by writing the Eubank Farms Company, 1169 Keystone, Pittsburgh, Pa. They will plant and care for your trees for \$5 a month. Your profit should be \$1,000. For eighteen cents to cover mailing expenses, they will send you, prepaid, sample jar preserved figs, grown on the plantation.

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insane mumbling of a fever dream is the whole war part of his late message! * * *

"His mind, taxed beyond its power, is running hither and thither, like some tortured creature on a burning surface, finding no position on which it can settle down and be at ease."

"Again, it is a singular omission in this message that it nowhere intimates when the president expects the war to terminate. At its beginning, Gen. Scott was by this same president driven into disfavor, if not disgrace, for intimating that peace could not be concluded in less than three or four months. But now, at the end of about twenty months, during which time our arms have given us the most splendid successes, every department and every part, land and water, officers and privates, regulars and volunteers, doing all that men could do, and hundreds of things which it had ever before been thought men could not do—after all this, this same president gives a long message, without showing us that as to the end he himself has even an imaginary conception."

"As I have before said, he knows not where he is. He is a bewildered, confounded and miserably perplexed man. "God grant he may be able to show there is not something about his conscience more painful than all his mental perplexity."

Eleven members of the labor group on the Russian war industries committee have been arrested, charged with conspiring to overthrow the monarchy and establish a Social Democratic republic, it was officially announced at Petrograd.

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What Is It?

By VICTOR L. BERGER.

SOCIALISM stands for a new civilization. Of course, with people who believe that whatever will exist forever, and that we have reached the acme of civilization, it is entirely useless to argue.

But surely no educated man believes that the present conditions are the end of all things.

That we have not reached the end of our national development is clear. Every new invention and every new political question proves that to us.

Determined opponents of the present system of industry as the Socialists are, still they never think of calling the concentration of capital the cause of all evil.

Socialists do not try to smash the trusts as such. On the contrary, Socialism appreciates so fully the advantages of industrial production on a large scale that we wish its most perfect development, which is impossible under the capitalist system.

The control of production by the people as a whole means the highest possible perfection of industry on a large scale.

We Feel It.

And we all deeply feel the disadvantages of the private ownership of the means of production and distribution on a large scale.

We observe how the railroads, street car companies, and other public service corporations corrupt our city councils and legislatures. We notice how our life insurance savings are simply furnishing funds for high-finance. We witness how the largest factory owners combine into trusts which are "financed" by banks, and how the meat trust, the oil trust, the steel trust, and all the other trusts are "regulating prices," and how, moreover, some of these trusts are ruining the health of the people.

We all see it. We all feel it. And we all know it.

They decide how much we shall pay for our coffee and our bread, how much for our kerosene and our coal, and how much we are to spend for our houses, clothing, etc.

In other words, they decide how well or how poorly we are to live. They have "the say" as to how long or how short a time we are permitted to live.

Not The Only Sufferers.

The wage-workers are by no means the only sufferers. The small employers, the small merchants, are also feeling the sting of an unequal competition. For every one of these men of business lives at war with all his brethren. The hand of the one is against the other, and no foe is more terrible to him than the one who is running a neck to neck race with him every day.

Therefore, in the factory as well as in the store the profits must be cut constantly and the sales must be ever enlarged. The latest improvements, the best labor-saving machinery must be used and as little wages must be paid as possible. The race is for life or death and "the Devil gets the hindmost."

The fierce competition lessens the profit on each article, and this must be compensated for by a greater number of articles being produced and sold, that is, the cheaper the goods the more capital is required to carry on the business.

Precisely, then, for the same reason that the mechanic with his own shop and working on his own account has nearly disappeared in the struggle between hand work and machine work—for precisely the same reason the small manufacturer, with their little machinery, their small capital and their little stock of goods, are now being driven from the field.

One-tenth of our population already owns nine-tenths of the wealth. The centralization of the control of property is increasing with a rapidity that threatens the integrity of the nation. The average of wages, the certainty of employment, the social privileges and independence of the wage-earning population, when compared with the increase of the wealth and social production, are steadily and rapidly decreasing.

With every increase of power and concentration of wealth the educated and professional class is fed more and more into dependence upon the capitalist. Our teachers, professors, speakers, newspaper editors, and writers, and all professional men, are more and more at the mercy of the capitalist system, and brought into abject dependence.

The Socialist Party is distinctly evolutionary and constructive in its method.

Reforms Welcomed.

Social reforms of all kinds are welcomed by the Socialists for many reasons.

In the first place, by reforms we can stop the increasing pauperization, and consequently also the enervation of the masses of the people. If real reforms are seriously taken up and carried out with determination, they may even lift the masses to a considerable extent.

But the main reason for our favoring them is because such reforms, if logically carried out, offer the possibility of a peaceful, lawful and orderly transformation of society.

Socialism Is Constructive.

The Socialist Party is the only true reform party in existence. We agitate for the organization of the masses. And organization everywhere means order. We educate, we enlighten, we reason, we discipline. And, therefore, besides order, we bring also law, reason, discipline and progress.

We Want To Save Civilization.

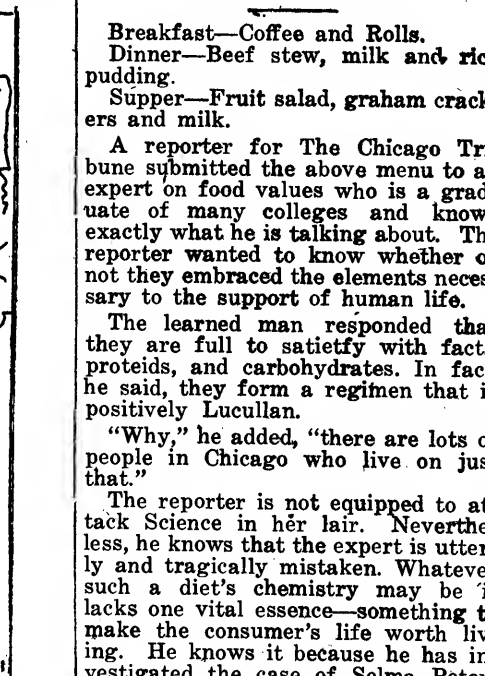
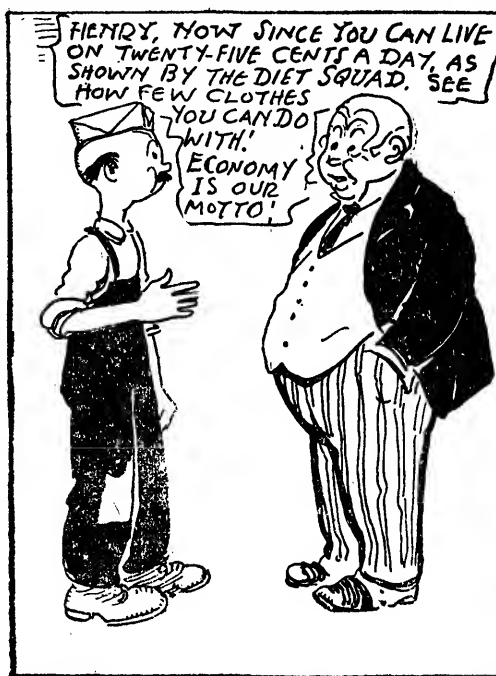
Socialism wants to maintain our culture and civilization, and bring it to a higher level.

Our party wants to guard this nation from destruction.

We appeal to the best in every man, to the public spirit of the citizen, to his love of wife and children.

Vote the Socialist ticket.

Henry Dubb Finds Out How Little Instead Of How Much He Can Live On



Diplomatic Relations Have Now Been Broken

By OLIVER C. WILSON.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. The working class has notified the Government of the Potato trust that unless the price of potatoes is reduced forthwith that they will recall their ambassador and refuse to buy or eat potatoes regardless of how hard it may be on their digestion, holding that no potatoes will be easier on their digestion than the price of the same is on their pocket books. All indications point to the workers being left potatoes.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. Between the people and the Egg trust. The people sent a note to the trust protesting the price of eggs and the trust forthwith severed relations and submarined prices. Neutral ministers have been appointed to look after the respective interests of the contending parties and the people have served notice that they have decided that they will not buy eggs, citing as justification for their action the fact that they have long suffered and that they only discontinued relations when they ran out of cash.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. Between the people and the Butter trust. The situation is extremely grave. Submarines in the business world have blown the price so high that the workers can ill afford to stand and deliver. The people have served notice on the butter trust that unless prices are reduced that the workers will recall their representatives and set up relations immediately with the Government of Oleomargarine.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. Many times in the past between the workers and their pay envelopes. This crisis is brought about when the employer recalls the workers pay envelope. The employer usually delivers an ultimatum to the worker to the effect that his services are no longer required. The workers usually refer to it as being "canned" or "laid off." Under ordinary circumstances the rupture is not dangerous, as relations are resumed when business picks up and in the meantime the worker enjoys his vacation looking for another job.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN BROKEN. In fact they have been crushed. But we still have the right to work for less than we can live on. We also have the right to break relations with the egg trust, the beef trust, the potato trust and all other trusts who lack the wherewithal with which to buy the things they have to sell. We have the right to get even with them by refusing to eat.

LET US BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. With all Capitalist political parties and all those that represent them. Let us support the Socialist movement and establish justice. Let us immediately draft a note and inform the old party politicians and representatives that we are thru with them all and request them to hang their heads in shame as an indication that their brains are dead.

Another Step Ahead

By LUCIEN SAINT.

Washington.—The makers of news print paper have allowed the Government to fix prices. This is a mild event but it may mean great things.

If the Government, acting for the people as a whole, can fix the price of paper, why can it fix the price of flour, of eggs, of meats, of coal, of transportation, of milk?

Reports in the files of the Government reveal that a system of governmental price-fixing coupled by a thorough agricultural co-operative movement, and backed by the driving force of a Socialist movement, has made Denmark a prosperous country—a country where the difference between the rich and the poor is not large, where farming is no longer a gamble against both the chances of nature and the greed of man, and where collective intelligence has displaced individualism run mad.

The Secretary of Agriculture has held up Denmark to the United States as an example. But when will the United States Department of Agriculture begin to follow the example of Denmark?

When will the lives of the people be safeguarded and made healthy by co-operative price fixing? Paper is one necessity. So is bread, milk, meat, and fuel.

Who is holding back Uncle Sam now—the Packers, the Oil Trust, the great milk combines? Or is it just the inertia of the people, that do not know their power, that do not know what to do?

"What About This Leak Of Prosperity?" Asks Meyer London, Socialist, In Congress

(Special Correspondence.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Immediate action for the government control of the supply and distribution of food was demanded last week in congress by Meyer London, the lone Socialist representative from New York City. London caustically reprimanded the House for devoting so much of its energy to the "leak" in connection with President Wilson's peace message, while ignoring the much more serious "leak" known as the "leak" of prosperity.

He characterized the bread riots in New York City as an outcry of the poor to heaven for relief from the extortions of the food pirates, and asserted that the crucial question is whether the people's food supply shall be permitted to remain under the control of unscrupulous capitalists or be taken over by the government and operated as a public industry.

ARE NOT BREAD "RIOTS."

"The matter to which I wish to attract the attention of the members of the House," said London, "is a matter entirely outside the pending army appropriation bill, but I feel under a deep obligation to bring it to your attention."

"The metropolitan newspapers reported yesterday and today, under headlines showing various degrees of alarm, bread riots in the city of New York. 'The expression, "bread riots," is hardly applicable to the situation. When women and children cry for bread, you cannot designate it as a riot. It is an outcry to heaven for relief; and Congress cannot find time to investigate this most serious leak—the leak of prosperity. Prosperity seems to have leaked out, to have disappeared. The strange thing about the city of New York is this: The three principal items of expense of the poor man's family are food, clothing and rent. New York is the greatest manufacturer of clothing in the country."

"It is the largest industry in the state of New York and the largest industry in the city of New York."

IS PROSPERITY BAROMETER.

"There is no safer barometer of prosperity than the condition of the clothing industry. The clothing industry in New York, which employs about 300,000 people, is not enjoying any perceptible degree of prosperity, for the simple reason that whatever increase of wages the workers throughout the country might have received during the extraordinary prosperity due to European conditions has been eaten up by the increased prices for food."

City Bank Big Success

The St. Paul, Minn., city "bank," the only one in the United States run by a municipality, is making great inroads on private banks in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Many of the labor unions of both cities have withdrawn their money from local banks and invested their funds in St. Paul city bonds thru the bank.

St. Paul does not have to sell its bonds thru bond houses as it sells many of them thru the "bank," which was started July 1, 1913. The plan of the "bank" is very simple.

Plan Is Simple.

Any one can go to the city hall with \$10 or any multiple of \$10 and get a certificate of interest for that amount in a bond in the sinking fund. Any time, if he wishes to withdraw his investment, he surrenders the certificate and receives its face value and 4 per cent interest for the entire period his money was on deposit.

When the "city bank" was opened savings departments were paying only 3 1/2 per cent interest. They were also reckoning interest only on stated days, and reserved the right to require notice of withdrawal. The "city bank" forced them to raise the interest to 4 per cent and made exercise of the notice requirement hazardous.

The "city bank" was, therefore, unpopular with other banks. Last April a grand jury made an attack on the "city bank" on the ground that its legal underpinning was insecure.

Withstood Big Run.

The "city bank," the day before this report appeared, contained deposits of \$1,998,630. The report started a "run," which lasted 26 business days and brought the deposits down to \$1,089,840, every demand being met with cash.

Meanwhile friends of the "city bank" initiated an amendment to the plan. It was submitted to vote, carried overwhelmingly and the "run" ceased.

Today the deposits of funds in the "city bank" exceed \$2,000,000.

The real significance of the St. Paul experiment is in the opportunity it opens to cities to finance public improvements with which bankers might not be in sympathy, such, for example, as ventures into municipal ownership.

LABOR WINS VICTORY.

Organized labor won a decisive victory when the Wisconsin assembly committee on labor reported unanimously for passage of the Kent (Socialist) bill, providing that all state printing must hereafter be done in shops operating on an eight-hour day basis.

"You have observed in the public press today that the president is insisting upon an appropriation of \$400,000 to investigate this food proposition?" asked Representative Shallenberger.

"I have," replied London, "and, of course, the president's proposition for the investigation should be endorsed by every member of Congress, but we are dealing here now with a pressing emergency."

"The people are now literally facing starvation, and do not forget that it is the men and women who, if they have any fault, have the fault of working too hard, working beyond human endurance. These are not the wives of idlers who are now complaining of the lack of bread."

HAS CONGRESS THE TIME?

"I am wondering now whether Congress can find time, when it is throwing away, giving away, hundreds of millions of dollars, billions of dollars for fortifications and navies, dreadnoughts and armies, to devote a couple of hours to consideration of the problem of food."

"You have bread riots, not in Vienna, not in Berlin, not in Petrograd, but in New York, the richest city of the richest country in the most prosperous period in the history of that country."

"I call the attention of Congress to the bill which I introduced on December 21, 1916, which deals with this problem."

"I know that the proposition I submit is extremely radical. It demands that the commission which is to be appointed shall prepare or recommend legislation to enable the government of the United States, or some governmental agency to be created by law to regulate the transportation, market, preservation and distribution of food, and to acquire and maintain, build and construct, equip, manage, own and control all such buildings, plants, structures, warehouses, granaries, abattoirs and each and every single thing incidental to, or connected with, or necessary to, the exercise by the government of complete control of the supply and distribution of food."

HE RECOGNIZES OPPOSITION.

"I know that the idea of national control of food does not appeal to the average American mind, but the question is this, shall we permit the food of the country, the social needs of the people, to be controlled by private capital, merciless, unscrupulous, lacking conscience, or shall the question of food be taken up by Congress and the people as a national problem?"

In response to a question by Representative Foss as to whether his proposal for the government in the name of the people to assume control of the food supply is to be permanent or temporary, London replied that, while one of its objects is to deal with the high cost of living emergency, he was convinced that the social benefits resulting would be so great that his proposed government would become a permanent institution.

SOCIALIST LEGISLATOR URGES MONEY CONSCRIPTION.

Attacking compulsory military service, R. A. Rigg, Socialist member of the Manitoba Legislature, declared that if the men are to be conscripted money must likewise be conscripted and the owners of money as well. The speech of Rigg was pronounced one of the greatest ever made in Canada and was delivered before a crowded house.

"Here," declared Rigg, "you have the British and the Dominion governments down on their knees supplicating capital to come to the aid of the empire in its hour of extremity. The nation, in the hour of its greatest need, supplicates King Capital to generously come to its aid and promises to pay 5 per cent interest. Do you call that national service? It ought to be called exploiting the very lifeblood of the nation. I think that if Shakespeare had been alive today he would have discarded Shylock as the personification on insatiable greed and in his place he would have selected a 5 per cent war bondholding patriot."

ANTI-GUNMAN BILL IN BADGER ASSEMBLY STARTS TROUBLE.

The Ohl Bill, requiring that private detectives, private police, investigators and watchmen must be licensed and furnish bonds, was the occasion of a sharp controversy before the Wisconsin assembly judiciary committee.

Assemblyman Henry Ohl, Socialist, defending his bill, said: "This bill would eliminate the employment of gunmen as strike breakers. That is its chief purpose. It would also make it difficult for employers to continue the practice of hiring detectives who work their way into labor organizations and foment trouble."

FEAR THE VOTERS!

The Wisconsin senate is opposed to giving Wisconsin voters a chance to vote whether or not they are in favor of state ownership and development of water powers. The constitutional amendment proposed by Senator W. C. Zumaich, Socialist, to permit the state to develop its water power was defeated by the senate 14 to 8.

URGE G. O. OF COAL MINES.

The Wisconsin legislature will be offered an opportunity to register its approval or disapproval of government ownership of coal mines. Assemblyman F. B. Metcalfe offered for the Socialist group a resolution in the assembly memorializing congress to "take such steps immediately as are necessary to assume the ownership and operation of all coal mines in the United States."

Think This Over

The recommendations of the recent United States Commission on Industrial Relations were as follows:

Public Ownership.

Government ownership of telegraphs.

Government ownership of telephones.

That private ownership of public utilities be abolished.

That private ownership of coal mines be abolished.

To Prevent Land Monopoly.

Prosecution to regain land, water power and mineral rights secured from the government by fraud.

All unused land should be forced into use by making the tax on non-productive land the same as on productive land of the same kind, and exempting all improvements.

Sickness Insurance.

Sickness insurance by Federal Government.

Public Work For Unemployed.

Means should be devised for employing the idle during periods of depression on such public works as road building, reforestation, construction of public buildings, irrigation and drainage of swamps.

Woman Suffrage.

That woman suffrage be adopted.

Limitation of Power of Courts.

Prohibition of courts from declaring laws unconstitutional.

Constitutional amendment prohibiting Federal courts from making encroachments on personal rights of all citizens.

Eight Hour Day.

The physical well-being, mental development and recreational needs of every class of population demand that under normal circumstances the working day should not exceed eight hours.

An Onion Story

A New York commission merchant urging government control of the distribution of foodstuffs, to point his moral told today of the sale, near Syracuse, of a carload of onions three weeks ago.

From Syracuse the onions went to Boston and were there resold and shipped to Philadelphia. In Philadelphia they were sold again and sent to Chicago. Then the price being commanded by onions in New York seemed so attractive that the carload was forthwith sent here.

The onions traveled a total of 2,748 miles and hadn't reached the ultimate consumer yet.

That is what happens when the food pirates conspire to make profits out of the food you need to keep alive.

By RYAN WALKER

One Girls Case

Breakfast—Coffee and Rolls.
Dinner—Beef stew, milk and rice pudding.

Supper—Fruit salad, graham crackers and milk.

A reporter for The Chicago Tribune submitted the above menu to an expert on food values who is a graduate of many colleges and knows exactly what he is talking about. The reporter wanted to know whether or not they embraced the elements necessary to the support of human life.

The learned man responded that they are full of satiety with facts, proteins, and carbohydrates. In fact, he said, they form a regimen that is positively Lucullan.

"Why," he added, "there are lots of people in Chicago who live on just that."

The reporter is not equipped to attack Science in her lair. Nevertheless, he knows that the expert is utterly and tragically mistaken. Whatever such a diet's chemistry may be it lacks one vital essence—something to make the consumer's life worth living. He knows it because he has investigated the case of Selma Peterson.

The girl was found yesterday afternoon at her room at 519 Lincoln Parkway. The place was full of gas because she had left the jet open. She was taken to the county hospital, where she was revived, made an ante-mortem statement, and died. Her career having thus expeditiously terminated, a clerk in the coroner's office proceeded to write her obituary. It read as follows:

Selma Peterson, 19 years old. Suicide at 519 Lincoln Parkway by gas asphyxiation. No relatives. Cause unknown.

The last entry, suggesting mystery prompted investigation. A visit to Selma's little room was rewarded by the discovery of three items calculated to illuminate the clerk's colorless account of her career.

One of them was a Bible, on the fly leaf of which was written:

To Selma, from her mother.

A second item was a note in which Selma herself had attempted to shed some light upon her story. It said:

"Wages too low. Life is not worth living."

The third was a little note book. In it the girl had recorded the three menus set forth above. There were other items in the book which indicated Selma was a desperate student of economics. From them it appeared she was employed by the Kaupenheimer clothing store, at 428 Franklin street, at a wage of \$8.00 a week. This income Selma had distributed as follows:

Meals\$3.15
Room rent 2.50
Car fare60
Laundry 1.00
Total\$7.25

Thus in mathematics that could not be refuted, Selma had been able to demonstrate to her own entire satisfaction that at the end of each week having liquidated all current indebtedness she would have left for orchid automobile rides, and theater parties a grand aggregate of 75 cents.

Having gratified a ghoul-like propensity which these inquiries the reporter went out to the county hospital; and talked to the doctor who had been with Selma when she died.

"Yes," said the physician, "she revived. For a short time before she died she was entirely lucid."

"What did she say?"

"Why, now that you mention it, she said a funny thing. I asked her what made her do it. She did not answer for a long time and then she asked:

"Doctor, did you ever live for six months on twenty-cent dinners?"

Municipal Ownership

The following list of municipally owned utilities does not cover all the field completely. There are not sufficient data available to give anything like a complete statement.

ENGLAND: 171 cities own and operate their own street car lines; 1,045 cities own and operate water systems; 300 own and operate gas plants; 334 own and operate electric light and power plants.

GERMANY: 132 cities own and operate street car lines; 1,333 cities own and operate water systems; 758 cities own and operate gas plants; 434 cities own and operate electric light and power plants; 783 cities own and operate slaughter houses.

UNITED STATES: 3,045 cities own and operate water systems; 1,562 electric light and power plants; 30 gas plants; 3 street railways.

In addition to the above there are many other forms of municipal ownership, of course. Many of the modern cities own and control large tracts of land. Berlin owns 39,000 acres of land which is about 9 per cent of the total area of the city; Munich owns 13,000 acres which is 23 per cent of the total area of the city. Many other cities are large owners of land. Zurich, Switzerland, owns and rents dwelling houses. So also do such cities as Paris, Buenos Aires, and Sidney. A great many cities own bakeries; many own restaurants, hotels, drug stores, boarding houses, theatres, libraries, picture galleries. In fact there is scarcely a public utility of any kind that has not in some city or other been taken over and owned and operated publicly.

We have not included in the above any reference to the less common forms of municipal ownership of which there are many cases. Boston owns and operates successfully a printing plant, Brookings, S. D., owns a telephone system. Cincinnati owns a steam railway over 300 miles in length. Many cities own public baths, docks, piers, ferries, subways; nearly all cities own parks, schools and libraries. A few own ice plants.

"The conflict will come, however, because if there is one deep-rooted conviction in the human breast it is that each person has a right to what he earns."—Scott Nearing.

"Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey, where wealth accumulates and men decay."—Goldsmith.

Scrupulously Honest

By ROBERT HUNTER.

Author of "Socialists At Work."

A GAINST all the hundreds of public officials elected by Socialists of the various states there has never yet been whispered the word "graft." In every case our opponents have had to admit that the Socialists were scrupulously honest.

Wherever the Socialists have been victorious it has been said that the town would be bankrupted, yet in no case has any Socialist city found it difficult to borrow money and nowhere has any Socialist town lost a single factory.

In every place where the Socialists have been elected to office and have been given power they have made good. Look at this one significant little fact. The Socialists built sewers in Schenectady for \$1.42 a lineal foot against the \$18.25 lineal foot that was charged by the old gang. They built 20,000 lineal feet of sewer at a total cost of \$70,000. In the previous regime 13,000 lineal feet of sewer cost the city \$299,000.

Don't Want To Do It.

Now that is a very small fact. Any honest people could have done as well, even if they were democrats, republicans or progressives. They could have done it if they had wanted to do it, but that is not their idea of politics.

The old machine politicians have no social conception of politics. They have no service idea in politics. They have no dreams of beautiful towns, healthy, well-planned and prosperous, nor do they seem to care whether or not the mass of men, women and children are happy and contented.

They have only one idea of politics, and that is to get out of it all that can be gotten out of it. Their conception of politics is to stand with the public service corporations, the contractors, the saloonkeepers and dives, in fact with anybody and everybody that makes money out of the town.

When a city needs sewers their idea is not to build them strong, well and cheaply, but to do as mean and scurvy a job as will pass inspection, and to rob the